

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 03479 260904Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 CIAE-00 SP-02 PM-05 INR-10
NSAE-00 MCE-00 DOE-15 /047 W
-----056203 261123Z /10

P R 260901Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 717
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3479

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, ESTC, KS
SUBJECT: NDPC SECURITY SURVEYS

REF: STATE 82455

1 MOFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION II DIRECTOR HAN CHANG SHIK ADVISED EMBOFF APRIL 25 THAT ROKG HAS NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO SECURITY SURVEY TEAM VISIT TO ROK IN EITHER LATE JUNE OR EARLY JULY AT THE SURVEY TEAM'S CONVENIENCE. HAN DID ASK FOR A FORMAL PROPOSAL IN WRITING FROM THE EMBASSY INDICATING (A) WHO WAS COMING, (B) WHAT ROK ORGANIZATIONS THE TEAM WILL WANT TO VISIT AND (C) IN WHAT MANNER THE SURVEY WILL BE CONDUCTED. HAN SAID THE REQUEST FOR THIS INFORMATION WAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CURRENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN USG AND ROKG ON THIS SUBJECT, WHICH EMBASSY DOES NOT FIND IN ITS FILES.

2. EMBOFF UNDERTOOK TO COMMUNICATE ROKG REQUEST TO DEPARTMENT AND INDICATED THAT COMPLIANCE WOULD APPEAR TO REPRESENT NO PROBLEM FOR US.

3. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT TEAM PLAN TO REVIEW ROK DEFENSE INDUSTRY SECURITY PROCEDURES IN THIS SURVEY IN VIEW OF SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES IN ROK DEFENSE INDUSTRY SINCE LAST SURVEY WAS MADE. CHANGWON DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL
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COMPLEX IS PRIME CANDIDATE FOR INCLUSION IN SURVEY, AS ARE AL AGENCY FOR DEFENSE DEVELOPMENT, (ADD) OFFICES AND LABS.

4. REQUEST INFORMATION ON WHICH TO BASE REPLY TO MOFA.

5. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING RATIONALE FOR STRIC-

TURES AGAINST ADVISING ROKG THAT ELIGIBILITY LEVELS IN CATEGORIES 2, 3 AND 4 HAVE BEEN UPGRADED. THIS ADMONITION APPEARS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. WE REALIZE THAT USG MAY STILL NOT WISH TO MAKE AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON ALL WEAPONS SYSTEMS WHICH MAY FALL IN SECRET LEVEL IN CATEGORIES 2, 3 AND 4. IT WOULD APPEAR MORE LOGICAL, HOWEVER, AND MORE IN KEEPING WITH SPIRIT OF US-ROK DEFENSE R&D COOPERATION WHICH WE ARE TRYING TO ENCOURAGE, TO INDICATE FORTHRIGHTLY TO ROKG THAT ELIGIBILITY LEVELS WERE BEING UPGRADED BUT THAT THIS DID NOT MEAN THAT INFORMATION REGARDING EVERY WEAPONS SYSTEM AT THIS LEVEL WOULD BE AVAILABLE. WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE AS TO WHAT MOTIVATED THIS RESTRICTION.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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